# VETERANS AND SENIORS COMMITTEE of the SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

#### **Minutes**

A regular meeting of the Veterans and Seniors Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on **August 22**, **2002**.

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Legislator William J. Lindsay - Chairman Legislator Martin W. Haley - Vice Chairperson Legislator Cameron Alden Legislator Andrew A. Crecca Legislator Lynne C. Nowick

# **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Terrence Pearsall - Aide to Legislator Lindsay
Ed Hogan - Aide to Legislator Nowick
Art Lozeau - Director, Veterans Service Agency
Holly Rhodes-Teague - Director, Office of the Aging
Sean Clancy - Budget Review Office
Nicole DeAngelo - County Executive's Office, Budget
Ed Stateman - League of Women Voters
Other Interested Parties

## **MINUTES TAKEN BY:**

Ana Grande- Court Stenographer

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(The meeting came to order at 10:45 A.M.)

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

We're going to call the Veterans and Seniors Committee to order. We can all stand for the pledge of allegiance. Legislator Nowick is going to lead us in the pledge.

(SALUTATION)

## CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

We have a very extensive agenda today. We have about three hours to get it done. If we could hear from Holly, do you want to come up, Holly?

Congratulations on your senior picnic, it was a wonderful event. It could have been a little bit hotter, though.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

We survived the picnic, that was good. We had about two thousand people, though, so I was surprised, and nobody overheated.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

You have to put your name on the record.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Oh, Holly Rhodes-Teague, Director of the Office for Aging.

The picnic went very well, so I'm happy about it, you know, that it went the way that it did and it's over with.

# **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

I was surprised how many people showed up. I mean my fellow Legislators that didn't make it, it was really, God it must have been what, ninety-five, ninety-six that day.

# MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

It was warm. The Southaven, though, is nice, because they have a lot of shade, so I mean that helped, we couldn't have done it without all those trees. It wouldn't have worked out.

We usually have twenty-five hundred to three thousand at the picnic, so we were down in numbers, but it really, there weren't -- some people stayed very late, I mean there were people there when we were packed up and ready to go, they were just staying to enjoy the outside, but it went very well, so I'm happy.

# **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Good.

# MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Yeah. Another day in paradise.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

How is your department doing?

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

We're doing well. The Epic Reimbursement Program is on its way. We've

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received about twenty-five hundred applications so far.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Good.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

We're working with M.I.S. to, they're actually, they've put together a

program for the information to be inputted into. There's a lot of glitches with the seniors, you know, they're cutting off the bottom, signing their name and not giving me the top half of the letters and things like that, but we're getting through it.

# **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Has the final approvals been completed by the State?

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

The program is ready to go, it's just with M.I.S. right now we, they're inputting the applications as we receive them and then the checks haven't started to be cut yet, we're still working on the final interface part of the program with Audit and Control.

#### **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

I know the holdup was the longest --

#### MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

The holdup, the holdup was --

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

-- The State wouldn't give us approval to do this.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Yes. We received the final approvals. They've sent, started sending out letters. When I asked the other day, they said that I guess right now we're starting to receive letters from those who, their year ended in March. You know, because what we're doing, we have to backtrack for the last six months, from January 1st, those who have, whose years ended in January and on, so now I think we're up to March. So we're, you know, getting the applications in and we're processing as we get them.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Any idea what the turnaround time is in the reimbursement?

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

In terms of the checks, well, we haven't -- we haven't cut any checks yet. You know, they're going into the computer, so, no, I don't know. I'm hoping that, you know, by September we'll start actually seeing checks go out.

#### **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

If we had a constituent, one of our constituents come in that qualified for the program, you don't have any idea, two months, three months?

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Well, what happens is that they, they get a letter from Epic saying, you know, this is what you've paid out, you may be eligible for some reimbursements, send this letter back in with your signature and it will

be processed. There's no application process except for that letter coming back to us.

#### **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Who's doing letter, the State is?

#### MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

The letter, The letter comes from the State Epic Program, they send it out. And in it, it says very clearly send it back to the Suffolk County Office for the Aging. And then we're processing along with M.I.S., who is helping us out right now with the inputting, because there's so many of them, you know, they have somebody keypunching them in for me.

That's not going to last forever, but right now it's working out that way. So right now we're just, M.I.S. is still trying to finish up the rest of the programs so that the checks can start being cut.

# CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

What will we reimburse of the premium that the senior pays?

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

All right. This year is a little more difficult than other years, because it's prorated. If their year ended, for example, in January, their premium -- the Epic year is a rolling enrollment, so what happens is, you know, people may have, the year might have ended in January, which means they only have one month in 2002 that's eligible for reimbursement. So even though they might have paid a premium of three hundred dollars, they're only going to get one-twelfth of that.

So that's, you know, because in 2000 -- you know, next year, they'll get the full reimbursement of the premium. So this year it's a little tricky. So I'm going to have some people who are not going to be happy, because they're thinking they're going to be getting three hundred dollars and they're going to get a portion of that.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

So our program went into effect January 1 --

MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

January 1st.

**CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:** 

-- 2002?

MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

With the premiums.

# **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

With the premiums.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

With the premiums. Co-payments are July 31st, 2002, and it's only for twenty-five percent of the co-payments, or fifty dollars, whichever is greater.

So that's July 31st. So for those whose years ended anywhere between

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January and July, they're not receiving any reimbursement for co-payments in this go around of checks. Next year they would get the full year reimbursements. So for some of these people, you know, the checks are going to be very small initially.

I mean it's going to be a difficult issue, and, you know, my office will be taking the phone calls on that. So if you have somebody's who's unhappy with their check, tell them to call my office, we'll try to explain it.

# **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

A very distinguished Legislator Haley has a question.

## LEG. HALEY:

You mentioned premiums, but you also implemented the reimbursement for the deductible?

# MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

The premium -- anybody -- if they, if they've paid any type --

#### LEG. HALEY:

There's two programs, right?

#### MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Well, you have the fee program.

## LEG. HALEY:

The fee program.

#### MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

But anybody who's paid a co-payment will then get reimbursed for the twenty-five percent.

#### LEG. HALEY:

That's under, that's under the co-pay.

# MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Yes. But both, they're both being treated the same in the sense that if you paid a premium, you're going to get reimbursed for that. If you paid

a co-payment, you're going to get about twenty-five percent.

#### LEG. HALEY:

All right. So my only question is that both segments are implemented?

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Yes, but the one is only July 31st.

## LEG. HALEY:

Yes, I understand.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

So, you know, that's -- so you're going to have, you may have a lot of people upset that their checks are for a few dollars when they think, you know, because what the seniors are doing, they're looking, in their heads they're adding up the two dollar amounts that are on that letter they sent me saying the reimbursement, a hundred dollars for premiums and, you

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know, five hundred dollars for co-payments and they're thinking they're going to get six hundred dollars when the reality --

# LEG. HALEY:

Yeah.

# MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

You know.

# LEG. HALEY:

Yeah, we can handle that.

# MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

You know.

## LEG. HALEY:

So in the meantime, once you get caught up, do you find that the system is going to work, is going to go pretty easy for you?

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

It's a little too early to tell at this point. I'm hoping so, you know, I mean it's, you know --

#### LEG. HALEY:

I know the premium portion is pretty easy, but the other one might be a little --

# MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

The co-payments, you know, that's why we've been working closely with M.I.S.. They set up a computer program for us that will hopefully, you

know, we've been playing with, you know, because we've had to play with it to make sure that it works, that will calculate all that. So it shouldn't be difficult to do, it's just the information has to be inputted and then checks have to be cut and then mailed out.

## LEG. HALEY:

Can you do me a favor, let me know before the first checks go out?

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

As soon as I know, I'll let you know. I just, I haven't been told yet, you know, I've been working with M.I.S., they're working very hard on this for us.

## LEG. HALEY:

I understand, we understand. We're blaming everything on the State anyway.

#### MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

What?

#### LEG. HALEY:

We're blaming everything on the State anyway.

Thank you.

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#### MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Thanks.

#### LEG. HALEY:

Legislator Lindsay.

# LEG. CRECCA:

Holly, I think I know the answer to this question, but I just want to make sure. A constituent called me the other day, she was paying Cobra payments as well as being on Medicare, because she wanted to continue, she continued health benefits from her husband's, you know, employment plan. And it didn't, yeah, exactly --

#### MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

That doesn't --

## LEG. CRECCA:

-- That's what my look was. And what I did advise her was, I said I'm certainly not an expert, but it sounds like you're paying for benefits that you don't need.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Doesn't need. She should call our office.

## LEG. CRECCA:

That's exactly what I did.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Yeah, because that doesn't sound right.

## LEG. CRECCA:

I referred her to the Office of Aging. I told her to ask for somebody who could help counsel her with health insurance. She was basically paying two hundred and seventy dollars a month on top of having Medicare.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

That doesn't make any sense.

# LEG. CRECCA:

Yeah. And she just, she had broke her hip and it turned out that Medicare ended up paying.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Right.

# LEG. CRECCA:

Almost everything.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Generally Medicare becomes the first, the first --

#### LEG. CRECCA:

That's exactly what happened.

# MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

-- The first provider of service.

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## LEG. CRECCA:

Medicare paid for everything. And I forgot what the insurance, private insurance plan was, but they didn't end up having to pay much at all.

#### MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

The Cobra eventually runs out too, so I don't know what --

## LEG. CRECCA:

Her husband I think recently passed away and she's on Cobra as a result of that.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

I think it's what, eighteen months or something, so I don't know how much longer that's worth doing anyway even if -- okay.

## LEG. CRECCA:

The thing is you guys have counselors.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Oh, yes, tell her to call my office.

# LEG. CRECCA:

Okay.

#### MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Right. And if we don't have the answer, we'll find it out from somebody.

# LEG. CRECCA:

Great.

# **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

And, Andrew, it depends on what the private plan provides too. You know, if the private plan, for example, has a paid prescription plan, you know, it might well worth being, staying in that just for that.

# LEG. CRECCA:

Right.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Right.

#### LEG. CRECCA:

But I don't think in her case, we had spoken a while, I was at her door, she, it was clear, you know, I mean she wasn't on maintenance drugs or anything else like that. So I mean --

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Yeah. All right. You know, but if she calls the office we can find out the answer, you know, we'll call the State insurance or we'll call, you know, we have the high cap qualities. We have a lot of places to call if we don't have the answer to that.

# LEG. CRECCA:

Right. Okay. Thanks.

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# CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Holly, how is the retirement incentive going to affect the department?

# MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

I'm not as affected as I was in 1999. I'm losing three people, whereas in '99 I lost seven, so I'm in better shape.

You know, obviously the people, I'd like to rehire these people as soon as I can, but, you know, we'll do the best we can till we can. You know, I don't have, I don't, you know, I'll do whatever I have to do.

We get reimbursed for a lot of our positions as well, so, you know, it's not that the County is going to have a full staff.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

I think the challenge to us as well as the Executive Branch or the Executive Branch is to look at that. I know we have a real serious financial problem, but to look at the positions. I mean some positions, not to fill them doesn't make sense. You know, if we're going to get reimbursed for the position or if that position, you know, we have some agencies in government that actually bring in money.

# MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

My position, my office receives substantial reimbursement, so, you know, I'm letting everyone know and, you know, we'll do the best we can with whatever we have. I mean it's just the way it is.

# **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Okay.

# LEG. ALDEN:

One of the problems is that you're going to reimburse positions once they retire, then we fully pay for those.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

You lost me on that one.

## LEG. ALDEN:

Three people you have retiring out of your office, say they worked there for ten, twenty, thirty years and we reimburse whatever, fifty, sixty, a hundred percent, while they're active. When they retire, we're paying, we pick up the cost on all of that.

## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Right, right.

## LEG. ALDEN:

All of it, yeah.

## CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Yeah, because they're part of the retirement system.

## LEG. NOWICK:

Holly, how many people do you have in your department?

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## MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

I have about fifty, you know, forty-five to fifty, depending on what day it is. You know, it's, you know, it's not a huge department, but, division, but, it's, you know, fairly, fairly good sized.

So, three isn't terrible. Seven a couple of years ago was bad, this isn't as bad as it's been.

# CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Anybody have anything else for Holly?

Do you have anything else you want to tell us, Holly?

MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Not at this time.

**CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:** 

Okay.

MS. RHODES-TEAGUE:

Thanks.

**CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:** 

Great.

Art, do you have anything you want to talk to us about?

#### MR. LOZEAU:

Art Lozeau, the Suffolk County Veterans Service Agency Director.

The only thing I want to mention is that the upcoming, we're going to have on October 12th, together with the Third Division of the American Legion, a ceremony at Armed Forces Plaza to commemorate the hundred and tenth anniversary of the Pledge of Allegiance, which should be a pretty nice ceremony. There will be invitations out on that.

As far as the agency itself is going, it's going fine.

With relation to your question about the early retirement incentive, I have one individual that is going to take advantage of that. In fact, he's been waiting for news coming. If that position gets filled, then we should be in fine shape.

In total, the agency has five Service Officers right now in the Hauppauge office. I have two full-time, one part-time. And in the Riverhead office I have one there and it's filled with a Service Officer.

So we're proceeding along and getting claims adjudicated and won for the most part for the veterans. We just had a DIC case where a lady is going to be getting a substantial amount of money. So things are going well

within the agency.

**CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:** 

Very good.

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#### LEG. CRECCA:

What time is that event on the 12th?

## MR. LOZEAU:

October 12th. It's ten o'clock, I believe. It will be on the invite. I'm not sure what time George wanted to have that. But it's being sponsored, it's being co-sponsored by the Third Division of the American Legion of Suffolk County and the Veterans Service Agency.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

I'm glad you were able to move that.

#### MR. LOZEAU:

There's paperwork.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

The original event was scheduled for some place in Brookhaven and I asked them, I said, you know, we have Armed Forces Plaza, it's an excellent place to have those types of events, why don't you consider moving. Art worked with them.

## MR. LOZEAU:

Right. It's a very nice setting for that.

#### **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Yes.

#### LEG. CRECCA:

I'm going back to a question that we've asked on a number of occasions in the past, do we have, is there anything being done as far as a master plan for Armed Forces Plaza? Is there a committee? I don't think I ever introduced -- I never introduced the legislation that we talked about last time.

# **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

I believe that's the, falls under the purview of Legislature Caracappa's committee.

## LEG. CRECCA:

Sites.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Siting.

## LEG. CRECCA:

Right.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Yeah, which ---

## LEG. CRECCA:

I don't -- are they doing a master plan, do you know, Art?

## MR. LOZEAU:

Not that I'm aware of. And they rule or decide on proposals made for Armed Forces Plaza, but I'm not aware of any master plan.

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#### **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Why don't I contact Legislator Caracappa and maybe I can get him to come to the next meeting and we can have a discussion about a master plan, because --

## LEG. CRECCA:

What I was going to suggest, Legislator Lindsay, because I've done some work on this, maybe if you, myself and Legislator Caracappa can meet Tuesday night if there's a little break in the meeting.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Right.

## LEG. CRECCA:

And have some discussion and certainly, you know --

# **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

And we'll fill in --

## LEG. CRECCA:

The other members of committee, right, exactly.

## CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

At the next committee meeting.

# LEG. CRECCA:

And then maybe we can put something more formal together, because I think the idea is the problem with the Site Committee is that they're looking at individual projects and I'd like to have some sort of master plan. It doesn't mean it has to be written in stone, but it would be nice to have a vision of what we're going to do.

## CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Great. Let's do it.

Do you have anything else, Art?

MR. LOZEAU:

No, sir. That's it.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Okay. Thank you. Okay. If fellow committee members don't have anything else, we'll go to the agenda.

## TABLED RESOLUTIONS

#### CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

On the tabled resolutions. 1296.

1296-02. Authorizing conveyance of parcel to Suffolk County United Veterans, Town of Brookhaven (Section 72-h, General Municipal Law).

#### **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Terry, we've talked to the sponsor --

MR. PEARSALL:

Mr. Chairman, I spoke this morning with Mr. Towle's office, and it is

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the suggestion that this be tabled subject to call. The Town of Brookhaven has not acted on any resolution to accept this property.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Do you have a comment, sir?

#### MR. STATEMAN:

I can't hear him. Is the microphone on?

#### MR. PEARSALL:

I'm sorry. Mr. Chairman, I spoke this morning with Legislator Towle's office. The Town of Brookhaven has not yet acted on a resolution regarding this property.

It is their recommendation that this be tabled subject to call pending Brookhaven taking some sort of action.

#### **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

I'll make the motion.

LEG. ALDEN:

Second.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

All in favor? (VOTE: 5-0-0-0) TABLED SUBJECT TO CALL

## INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS

1769-02. To provide funding for Memorial Day observance for Calverton National Cemetery.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY: 1769. Introductory Resolution to provide funding for Memorial Day observance for Calverton National Cemetery.

If you recall, this came up around Memorial Day. It's been a long tradition here that we provided some incidental funding for Melville Cemetery and somebody said what about Calverton.

LEG. ALDEN:

Marty, is this yours?

MR. PEARSALL:

This came out of the committee.

#### **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Actually, I'm the sponsor and it's for a thousand dollars, defraying the expenses of the proper observance of Memorial Day.

LEG. CRECCA:

Is it for next year?

**CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:** 

Yes. We have until next year --

LEG. CRECCA:

I don't understand.

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# LEG. ALDEN:

You need a resolution. They have a resolution in for Melville, for that cemetery, so you need a resolution now to authorize --

LEG. CRECCA:

Okay. In other words it would be -- and then it would become -- we would have to make it part of the operating budget, though, for next year.

LEG. ALDEN:

Right.

LEG. CRECCA:

Because that obviously is not on the appropriations bill.

# CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

No.

## LEG. CRECCA:

It's just a bill saying, a policy statement, so to speak, is that correct?

# LEG. ALDEN:

How much is the Melville?

#### **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Well, We had been giving Melville three hundred dollars, and this came to the forefront that we hadn't done anything for Calverton and that the three hundred dollars was long, long ago should have been updated. So we updated this resolution to a thousand dollars and the intent is to do the same thing for Melville.

## LEG. ALDEN:

I have one question on this. Who do we authorize as far as as a group, is it the American Legion or a group of veterans' organizations to utilize this thousand dollars?

#### MR. PEARSALL:

Mr. Chairman, I think Art would like to comment on that.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Go ahead, Art.

#### MR. LOZEAU:

I can add to that. Art Lozeau.

There are two formal committees and they are the Long Island National Cemetery Memorial Organization and the other is the Calverton National Cemetery Memorial Committee. They are made up of veterans and civic organizations, in the case of Calverton Veterans Organizations, and there's a president of each of the committees.

And these committees are the ones that are going to be asking for the five hundred dollars each, if they want it. And it was done last year by the President of the Long Island National Cemetery.

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So who's going to ask for it? It will be that committee. It's not going to be an individual person that says, oh, this is available, let me ask for it.

The legislation is written, so that it is in those committees that are the ones that will be receiving it.

LEG. ALDEN:

Who makes the decision on whether they get it or not, your office?

MR. LOZEAU:

You do, the Legislature does.

LEG. ALDEN:

They're going to come to this committee.

MR. LOZEAU:

Annually.

LEG. ALDEN:

With a proposition or a proposal that we're going to spend "X" number of dollars doing this, this and this on wreaths or flags or whatever.

# MR. LOZEAU:

That's correct. It becomes a member item that you grant and then my office processes it and then they provide the receipts of what they paid for it, just like any other member item grant.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

I went to the Calverton ceremony last year and it's a very moving ceremony. It was, there was, I don't know, three, four hundred people there. And they put out like five thousand flags throughout, every grave site had a flag and it was really well done.

I'd like to make a motion to approve 1769.

LEG. ALDEN:

Second.

**CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:** 

All in favor? (VOTE: 5-0-0-0) APPROVED

LEG. CRECCA:

Co-sponsor.

LEG. ALDEN:

Put us all down as co-sponsors.

**CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:** 

Yes. That's fine, that's fine.

SENSE RESOLUTIONS

#### **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

And we have one Sense Resolution.

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## SENSE RESOLUTIONS

Sense 53-02. Memorializing resolution requesting Federal government to ensure HMO services for senior citizens in Suffolk County.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

Memorializing resolution requesting the Federal government to ensure HMO services for senior citizens in Suffolk County.

# LEG. CRECCA:

Who is the sponsor of that?

# **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

I am. Do you want to join?

# LEG. CRECCA:

I'd like to be on that bill also. And I think the whole, I don't think there's anybody on the committee that wouldn't want to be.

## LEG. ALDEN:

Co-sponsor.

## LEG. NOWICK:

Yes.

## LEG. HALEY:

A little background, I'd like a little background.

#### CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Well, it just, just asking the Federal government to change the reimbursement rates for Suffolk County.

## LEG. HALEY:

That's the problem they have been having all along.

## **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

So that we can have more HMO's in our community, I mean we're down to two.

## LEG. HALEY:

All right.

# **CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:**

And it's going to get worse with the situation with the Catholic Hospital Network and Blue Cross/Blue Shield, more and more people are being forced out.

# LEG. ALDEN:

The bill is highly critical in the past administration too for not taking care of that.

**CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:** 

That isn't why I made that.

LEG. ALDEN:

I'm only kidding, that's a joke.

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LEG. HALEY:

So we're all co-sponsoring?

**CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:** 

Right. I make a motion.

LEG. ALDEN:

Second.

LEG. CRECCA:

I want my name, though, co-sponsored before Marty's.

LEG. HALEY:

Alphabetical order is fine with me.

LEG. ALDEN:

Then I go first, thank you.

**CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:** 

All in favor? (VOTE: 5-0-0-0) APPROVED

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

All right. There's nothing else on the agenda. Nobody has anything else to say, motion to adjourn.

(The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 A.M.)

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